

Lecture 1: Welcome to Positive Psychology!

- So what is positive psychology?
- Uses science to study things like:
 - Positive emotions, psychological growth, human strengths
 - What makes life worth living!
- **How do we tell how well a country is doing these days?**
 - Gross domestic product (GDP) -- how much money is a country generating!
 - Countries can be evil
 - 1968 - Bobby Kennedy -- "GDP does not really work, does not include the other aspects of our world, does not measure wit, compassion, integrity etc"
 - GNH: every human being aspires for happiness, and countries should measure the happiness of its people (gross national happiness)
 - Influenced by Butan
 - Strive for development with values
 - UK assessing happiness, but not USA
 - Americans are in a very smiley place but are not doing that well
 - Number 15 on 20 happiest countries
 - Why is USA unhappy?
 - No healthcare support (health and happiness strongly correlated)
 - We do not use our vacation time.
- **PP: The study of what is right about people; what makes life worthwhile**
 - Psychology has a focus on clinical aspects that are very negative
 - PP is something is not focused on that much, what people really care about, how to become happy, can we change that person?
- **PP is not Happiology**
 - Unhealthy to be happy 24/7

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Lecture 2: The Origins of Positive Psychology

- **Ancient History of Happiness Interest**
 - People who speak about positive psychology believe it was invented in the 2000s
 - Actually has been here since Buddha, thousands of years
 - Mediation, middle path, peace, compassion for all, focus on happiness
 - Socrates, Confucius, Frankl, Epicurus
 - Has been studied in very different ways, not in a field of psychology yet
 - Happiness depends on ourselves, essential as a central purpose of human life and goal itself (Aristotle)
 - Eudaimonia, as opposed to hedonics
 - A term that comes from philosophy
 - Passing positive emotions versus dispositional life meaning stuff
 - Do you have life meaning and purpose? (Eudaimonia)
 - How are you feeling right now? Are you happy or calm (Hedonism)
 - Confusing because happiness will be used in different ways in this course

Positive Psychology Guide

SA Adler



Positive Psychology Guide:

Handbook of Positive Psychology C. R. Snyder, Shane J. Lopez, 2001-12-20 The Handbook of Positive Psychology provides a forum for examining the more positive side of the human condition In its pages readers are treated to an analysis of what the foremost experts believe to be the fundamental strengths of humankind It looks at the power and vitality of the human spirit as it faces a multitude of life challenges The Handbook is the first systematic attempt to bring together leading scholars to give voice to the emerging field of positive psychology

The Oxford Handbook of Positive Psychology Shane J. Lopez, C. R. Snyder, 2011-10-13 This book is the definitive text in the field of positive psychology the scientific study of what makes people happy The handbook s international slate of renowned authors summarizes and synthesizes lifetimes of research together illustrating what has worked for people across time and cultures Now in paperback this second edition provides both the current literature in the field and an outlook on its future

Positive Psychology and You Alan Carr, 2019-08-13 This broad and innovative self development guide shows readers how they can use scientific findings from contemporary positive psychology to enhance their lives Containing dozens of practical exercises and real life examples it helps bring positive psychology findings from the lab into day to day life Divided into six parts and covering a wide array of themes this book is designed to help people with or without mental health problems enhance their well being It answers questions like what is well being What are the main determinants of well being and how can we sustain it There are also chapters on physical exercise progressive muscle relaxation and mindfulness meditation savouring pleasures creative solution finding and developing compassionate relationships This non technical and highly accessible book will be of interest to those from all backgrounds with an interest in self development as well as mental health workers and related professionals

Pursuing Human Strengths Martin Bolt, 2004-02-20 By using the scientific method in its efforts to assess understand and then build human strengths positive psychology balances the investigation of weakness and damage with a study of strength and virtue Pursuing Human Strengths A Positive Psychology Guide gives instructors and students alike the means to learn more about this relevant approach to psychology Martin Bolt helps students learn more about themselves as they learn the facts of and theories about the fascinating field of psychology This book is a terrific accompaniment to virtually any psychology course most notably human adjustment and growth introductory psychology and abnormal psychology For those teaching a course in positive psychology Pursuing Human Strengths provides a primary text

A Practical Guide to Positive Psychology Bridget Grenville-Cleave, 2012-01-05 Positive psychologists seek to find and nurture genius and talent and to make normal life more fulfilling rather than treat mental illness This Practical Guide explores how we can all have a life of enjoyment in which we savour the positive emotions that are part of healthy living a life of engagement where we feel confident we can tackle the tasks we face and a life of affiliation being part of something larger than ourselves Free of jargon but full of straightforward advice case studies and step by step instructions this is the perfect concise start to making your

life better **The Routledge International Handbook of Critical Positive Psychology** Nicholas J. L. Brown, Tim Lomas, Francisco Jose Eiroa-Orosa, 2017-09-19 Since the turn of the twenty first century the field of positive psychology has sought to implement a science of human flourishing so that we may lead happier more fulfilling lives It has found expression not only in academic papers but also popular books and increasingly in government policy The Routledge International Handbook of Critical Positive Psychology is the first volume dedicated to a critical appraisal of this influential but controversial field of study The book critically examines not only the scientific foundations of positive psychology but also the sociocultural and political tenets on which the field rests It evaluates the current field of knowledge and practice and includes chapters analysing the methodological constructs of the field as well as others that question what positive psychology actually means by ideas such as happiness or well being Taking the debate further the book then discusses how positive psychology can be applied in a wider variety of settings than is presently the case helping communities and individuals by acknowledging the reality of people s lives rather than adhering strictly to debateable theoretical constructs Including contributions from disciplines ranging from psychoanalysis to existential therapy theology to philosophy and contributors from throughout the world The Routledge International Handbook of Critical Positive Psychology will be enlightening reading for anyone interested in how psychology has sought to understand human well being *Handbook of Positive Psychology Assessment* Willibald Ruch, Arnold B. Bakker, Louis Tay, Fabian Gander, 2022-10-01 Learn how to select the right positive psychology PP assessment tool for the right situation Written by internationally renowned authors Looks at well being traits states and behavior Presents the relevant psychometric properties Considers assessment challenges Recommends selection in different settings Explores new directions in PP A comprehensive guide to selecting positive psychology assessment tools This volume gives a state of the art overview of assessment in the field of positive psychology including a comprehensive survey of current theories approaches issues and assessment instruments In four sections leading experts look at different conceptualizations of well being and discuss specific traits states and behaviors New directions in positive psychology are also explored including measuring primal world beliefs imagination self transcendent experiences and nostalgia Each chapter provides an introductory background to the positive psychology topic reviews the most relevant assessment instruments and discusses the specific assessment related challenges Recommendations for selecting assessment tools are included for specific settings such as school relationships health and clinical settings leisure and interventions This book is a must for positive psychology researchers instructors students and practitioners wanting to select the right positive psychology instrument for the right situation [Oxford Handbook of Methods in Positive Psychology](#) Anthony D. Ong, Manfred H. M. Van Dulmen, 2006-11-02 In the short time since the publication of the Handbook of Positive Psychology research results on the psychology of human strengths have proliferated However no major volume has documented the methods and theory used to achieve these results Oxford Handbook of Methods in Positive Psychology fills this need

providing a broad overview of diverse contemporary methods in positive psychology With contributions from both leading scholars and promising young investigators the handbook serves to illuminate and at times challenge traditional approaches Incorporating multiple levels of analysis from biology to culture the contributors present state of the art techniques including those for estimating variability and change at the level of the individual identifying reliability of measurements within and across individuals and separating individual differences in growth from aspects of phenomena that exhibit shorter term variability over time The volume covers such topics as wisdom health hope resilience religion relationships emotions well being character strengths and laughter It enhances our understanding of the balance between human deficits and strengths and demonstrates their connections to other problems Oxford Handbook of Methods in Positive Psychology will be the essential reference for methods in positive psychology *Introducing Positive Psychology* Bridget Grenville-Cleave, 2012 A Practical Guide to improving your outlook on life *Practicing Positive Psychology Coaching* Robert Biswas-Diener, 2010-09-07 Discover proven strategies for applying positive psychology within your coaching practice Written by Robert Biswas Diener a respected researcher psychologist life and organizational coach and expert in positive psychology *Practicing Positive Psychology Coaching* presents a wide range of practical interventions and tools you can put to use right away in your coaching practice Each intervention is clearly outlined and where appropriate illustrated by case studies from organizational and life coaching Providing unique assessments that can be used to evaluate client resources and goals this practical guide introduces tools unique to this book that every professional can use in their practice including Findings from new research on goal commitment strategies motivation growth mindset theory and goal revision A decision tree for working specifically with Snyder s Hope Theory in the coaching context An easy to use assessment of positive diagnosis which measures client strengths values positive orientation toward the future and satisfaction Measures of self esteem optimism happiness personal strengths motivation and creativity Guidance for leading clients through organizational and common life transitions including layoffs leadership changes university graduation middle age and retirement Filled with reflective exercises for use in your own personal and professional development *Practicing Positive Psychology Coaching* also includes guidance and recommendations for marketing a positive psychology coaching practice

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